

Live your life

by Peter Twitchell

My group doesn't quite live up to the name we were given sixty years ago, "Baby Boomers." We have slowed down quite a bit. One of the laws of nature, as we age we must obviously slow down. Many people ask me, and more so than when I was in my twenties and forties, "How are you?"

To be honest I hate to tell them the truth, for fear of putting them in a deep depression, so I just respond, "I'm hanging in there." My definition of hanging in there would be just living one day at a time, and come what may, I'm making the best of it. Because, to tell you the truth, that's all I can do, I don't leap over fences any more, and if I did, it would be hysterical. Neither do I run twenty (20) laps around the gym anymore, a number of factors, plus age won't allow it. I don't grab a rifle and a fifteen pound anchor and jump out of a moving boat, either, because of bad knees, and the one I blew out in 1991.

I know I have two vertebrae that need repair or replacement, and I don't need a doctor to tell me this, I know it's a fact. I know my body better than most people do,



**Waten
Umyuaqutaqa**
("What I think about it.")

I've been in it for sixty – plus years.

My message to the young at heart, and that's our youth, is to enjoy your life, and don't take it for granted. You are young only once. See the world even if it's through a porthole, but see it, enjoy it, taste it and savor it while you can. Don't take life for granted, be good to yourself and be kind to everyone and everything.

Never sit there and cry over spilt beer or a relationship that went sour, instead get on with life and live it to its fullest. You'll be glad you did one day when you're sitting at home alone. Love your siblings, your brothers and sisters while you can and treasure them, we're not guaranteed tomorrow. Honor your father and mother, and you will enjoy a fuller longer life.

Alcohol and drugs are just a waste of time and money. Waste of time because you will often get cheated out of living a richer life being there for your children and grandchildren, not to mention your partner, significant other, wife or husband. And a waste of money, because there isn't enough to go around and give your loved ones what they really need in life, like a good education and a happy home, living your life today as if it were your last.

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I've worked for AVCP back in the early 2000, and quite frankly traveled all over the delta to visit our compacting tribes consulting with the small tribe's administration and bookkeeper with the thought and frame of mind that I was working for the tribe. My original thought of assisting such a small tribe was to train, teach and embark on that small and needy tribe to develop the necessary skills of the ins and outs of directly contracting with BIA or other such agencies. If one of those tribes that are still compacting as of today, your small tribe needs to ask questions to AVCP. Why are you still compacting with them? Is your tribe compared to when you first started to compact made advancement or improvements since then? It really does not take nearly 20 years to develop the necessary skill to directly contract with BIA.

Regarding the Regional Tribal Government if and when this government is amended or established, each and every tribe will have to lay out exactly how this government is formed and what they can carry out for each separate tribe. Within both the Inupiat Community of the Arctic Slope (ICAS) and Tlingit Haida Central Council, the individual village based tribes are recognized, they retain their inherent sovereignty, and have a priority for both 638 (BIA and Non-BIA) Contracting and Compacting, as well as for grants. But that would need to be specifically addressed, or there may be a conflict between who receives the funding, and who has the priority to apply first for the funding. Same with sovereignty, it cannot be taken away, but it can be given away, so it would need to be clear that tribes are not delegating away their inherent sovereign authority.

Steven Alexie
Napaskiak, AK

Thank you for funding homeless programs

Thank You Governor Bill Walker for the continued funding of programs that help the homeless in Alaska. The Governor put back in \$9.2 million for the basic homeless assistance program that helps out agencies statewide like the CSS clients we serve at Clare House and Brother Francis Shelter.

OMB Director Pat Pitney says funding

these programs is a "cost effective way to address issues that could be costly for our communities. It reduces overall costs in corrections and health and social services."

We appreciate your support in helping us compassionately serve the poor and those in need.

Corey Allen-Young
Communications Manager
Catholic Social Services

You Matter

There may be times when it feels as though no one in this world cares about you all, and that things will be better for everyone if you weren't alive. That is far from the truth. No matter how things appear, there is always someone out there that cares for you. Someone that you make a difference to in their lives. You just have to look a little while and you will begin to see. See that you really do matter to someone out there. See that your presence on this world is needed by someone out there. That your friendship, your personality, and your views on a lot of little things make the world better for someone or someones.

Always think about the impact your life has on those around you. See the little signs that those in your life really do care for you and love you in their hearts. Think before you try or do anything that may hurt you. Your little action would have lasting negative impressions on those around you. Despite how it seems, you would be sorely missed, and you would greatly hurt those you never intended to hurt in the first place. No matter what comes your way, no matter what is said or done, always keep going. Not only for your family, but also for the friendships you have made, no matter how small. For you make a greater positive impact on the world than you know. Remember this, you matter because you are you. Your life is important to everyone around you. You will always be needed by someone or someones in this crazy messed up world.

One more thing, no matter who you are, no matter what you may have done, no matter how things will turn out in the end, someone out there loves you in one form or another. You matter.

Francis Lake
Hooper Bay, AK

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NOTICE

Emmonak Corporation
2014 Annual Shareholders Meeting scheduled for:
**April 13, 2015 @ 1:00 p.m. at the
Emmonak Community Complex**

There are three (3) vacant seats open for Candidacy
TERM: 2015-2017

Any shareholder who wishes to run for the Emmonak Corporation Board of Director's may pick up a Declaration of Candidacy Form from the Board Secretary,
**Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
at the Emmonak Corporation office.**

**Deadline for filing:
March 1, 2015 @ 5:00 p.m.**

Bering Sea - Western Interior Resource Management Plan



You're Invited

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) invites you to a meeting to discuss preliminary alternatives for the Bering Sea-Western Interior (BSWI) Resource Management Plan (RMP). Come learn about the planning process and ask questions. BLM will accept comments through March 20, 2015 for the preliminary alternatives outreach period.

For more information and schedule updates, please visit the project website at: www.blm.gov/ak/planning/bswi

You may also email: BSWI_RMP_Comment@blm.gov, or contact Jorjena Daly at (907) 267-1246.

Refreshments will be provided.

Please contact Elizabeth Appleby at (907) 375-9019 with special needs requests.

BSWI preliminary alternatives outreach meetings:

2/23/15 McGrath 1:00 PM - Village Council Meeting Room	3/11/15 Kalskag 10:00 AM - Tribal Office	3/19/15 Anchorage Open house 4:30 PM Presentation 6:30 PM - Campbell Creek Science Center (5600 Science Center Dr.) - Remote call in number 1-888-369-1427, Code 2271254
3/2/15 Holy Cross 1:00 PM - Community Hall	3/11/15 Lower Kalskag 1:00 PM - Town Hall	
3/3/15 Nulato 2:00 PM - Recreation Center	3/12/15 Russian Mission 1:00 PM - School Commons	
3/4/15 Kaltag 2:00 PM - Community Hall	3/16/15 Aniak 1:30 PM - Community Hall	
3/5/15 Grayling 1:00 PM - New Tribal Building	3/17/15 Crooked Creek 1:00 PM - Tribal Office	3/26/15 Unalakleet 1:30 PM - Myles Gonangnan Aaron Paneok Memorial Hall
3/10/15 Bethel 11:00 AM - Yup'it Piciryarait Cultural Center (401 Chief Eddie Hoffman Hwy.)	3/18/15 Chuathbaluk 12:00 PM - Tribal Office	

